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TOWN CLERK

Foxborough Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting

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Wednesday March 2, 2022

FOXBOROUGH, MA 02035

In Attendance: Paul Ivanovskis, Chairman, Dan Peterson, Vice Chairman, Sharon Weiskerger, Jack Martin, Marlowe Farrar, Raffaella Zizza-Feinstein, Mike Brown and Eric DeLisle. John Mahoney, joined later. Bill Keegan, Town Manager and George Samia, Finance Director, also present.

Minutes: Taken by Tony Colangelo

7 p.m. Paul I. – Agenda Items – Warrant Articles

Bill K. – Article 7 – Revolving Account Article: Revolving funds, are like a mini-budget account recognized by the state, which we are required to authorize each year according to state law. Our categories are, Public Health, IT and Recreation. For Recreation, the funds go in and are used to pay for staff members and costs incurred for the program itself. Public Health this past year dealt with vaccinations. IT Technology, a lot of folks had to have their kids use computers during the school year. A lot of them kept breaking down and needed repairs and this helped pay for some of these expenses.

Police & Fire Apparatus Fund: If they rent out vehicles throughout the year, stadium events, etc., it pays into this fund and then will be used for repairs, etc.

Highway Department Revolving Fund: We will clarify the definition in the future.

Council on Aging, Senior Trips & Programs Fund: They were able to buy/secure test kits and then sell them. Council on Aging Community Events; they have throughout the year. They sell tickets and it brings in money for funding Council on Aging Human Services.

Article 8 – Unpaid Bills: The town needs to vote to raise funds & have money to help pay for tuition for a Boyden Library employee.

Article 9 – Funds Qualified OPEB Trust. Liability Trust Fund. Used to fund, unfunded post-employment benefits for the town. **Jack – question;** where is the source of money for this fund coming from? **George S.-** responded this is raised from the budget \$985,000 and about \$78,000 from water & sewer free cash for a total of \$1,064,000. **Jack – comment:** I am concerned that we are paying more than 50% of meals tax towards this when 50% should be going towards roads & sidewalks? **Bill K. –** stated, yes, it comes from meals tax and free cash. **Paul I. –** stated, we will serve that up as a special agenda topic at an upcoming meeting so we can move forward with the agenda.

Article 19 – Select Board Amendment to Special Acts, General Bylaws and Zoning Bylaws. This will change all laws, bylaws, references will be changed to Select Board from Board of Selectman. Needs a 2/3 majority vote at the Town Meeting. A lot of communities have already gone to this terminology. **Chair Gibson - Chair of the Board of Selectman;** stated, this is something where it is time for us to do. When Bill and I go to meetings for MMA, we are one of the few still using terminology Board of Selectman. It's time for us to change. **Dan P. – question;** does this address the term Chairman? **Bill K.- stated,** I don't know that it does. We sometimes use the term Chair, as we refer to Leah Gibson. It is a good point to think about as we think about the code.

Article 20 – Door to Door Solicitors. They are required to register with the town. People who don't want this can request they get put off the list. This makes the process accountable. This does not apply for charitable groups, e.g., Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. **Leah Gibson, Additional comments;** also have current provisions requiring a license rather than just a registration and this strengthens that requirement. **Jack – comment;** the Town Clerk maintains a list of do not solicit people and gives it to the police dept. **Bill K. –** yes, and the police dept. makes sure the solicitors have it before going out. **Raffaella question –** how do we educate the public and also let them know which solicitors are exempt – maybe we should mail them a list? What if solicitors go to these homes who don't want them? **Bill K. –** good question, if they did not register with the town, they would not be able to fine them. **Raffaella question –** the term hawkers, what is that word used for? **Bill K. stated -** That is actually a legal term and it is used in the statute itself.

Paul I. – Thank you to Bill Keegan and Leah Gibson. Bill stated, just as a reminder to Dan, that we have the Capital Committee Sat. AM.

Paul I. Agenda Item; Logistics. Stated he has dropped off the Capital Committee and Dan is taking on that role, - thank you Dan. Any questions about Capital, please direct to Dan. Salina C. has resigned from the Adv. Comm. Committee due to time and too many personal conflicts. We thank her for everything she has done. **Jack asked;** when will we resume in person meetings? **Paul I. –** I would like to start on March 16, but wanted to see how everyone felt about this. Also, we still need to decide if we should televise or not. We will do the Citizens Petition next week. For the rest of the month, we will work through the 23rd and possibly the 30th. I think the recommendations will be due on the 30th for the Town Meeting. Committee members will be taking agenda items and writing them up for the town meeting. I will read the Operating Budget, Dan will have the CIP Budget, Mike & Eric will have the Fire & Revolving Budget. Sharon will have Unpaid Bills & OPEB. Dennis was heavily involved with Contracts and has left, so we will hand that off to Jack. **Jack – comments;** There are 10-15 articles and in negotiations, nobody gives in till the last minute to get everything you can. Then nobody has time to review. I propose we put articles 10-15 on next weeks agenda and that this Committee

makes no-action on each of these and then we can change our recommendation if some info comes thru in time. **Bill K. – comments;** Mike J. is working very hard weekly on these. He is very close on a couple of them. More often than not, if a couple of them go thru, then the rest will closely follow. We are all working within a certain time frame. **Dan - question;** can we bring an earlier deadline? **Bill K. stated** – we have tried – but once people go past deadlines, it would be and it is hard to say no just for that. **Dan P. comment** – but there is no penalty for doing it late and no benefit for doing it earlier either. How can we make it more effective for everyone? What can we implement? Bill stated we have tried to implement deadlines. Dan asked, what is that date – the immediate impact - when do they expire? Bill stated- each contract expires June 30th. Then they have a clause that let's conditions continue till until another Town Meeting. Dan asked what is the date for this end negotiation. Bill stated, Mike is trying to get it done by the end of this month (March) or the middle if he can and I know he is very close on a couple of them this week. **Marlowe,** - question for Paul or Dan. What is the Adv Comm history regarding these contracts? How often have they come in-time for recommendation vs. no action, etc. What can Adv Comm do to 2nd guess or make a recommendation or rejection? Bill K – stated, the only thing the Adv Comm can do with the review is the funding. Is the funding appropriate and reasonable – that's all we can act on. The terms and conditions of the agreement are only for the Board of Selectmen. To impose a deadline on the process would be difficult – but, it is fair as a policy statement that we want this completed by x-week before the Town Meeting in order for us to review.

Paul I. – Next Agenda Items – Citizens Petition. Marlowe, have we heard anything back from her yet? No, we haven't. Ok we'll follow-up. **Sidewalks** – No info submitted with petition. We may hear from him next week. **Direct Mailing** – sent an e-mail & town council comment – not a law change – it is a recommendation for action. **#19 & #20** – still pending – we have talked about. **#21 & #22** – Zoning B-Laws Amendment – we may have to vote on again. **Also #23, #24, #25, #26. Also, 2 Marijuana Actions.** **Also, Billboards;** difficult to understand if they may cause accidents while people are driving. **Bill K.** – the locations for these at the DPW in town, and the second is off of Belcher Rd. facing towards Rt. 95. Revenue from these come from the ground lease which may be over \$1 million and also for monthly payments for use of the signs. The marijuana and billboard items may be on the Adv Comm agenda next week. **John M. asked,** - regarding marijuana law, can we ask where in town they can go? There are regulations on how close they can be to schools, church, etc. **Bill K. stated** – I will provide that info when I get it.

9:05 p.m. Paul I. - asked for motion to adjourn. Eric made a motion to adjourn and Dan seconded. Everyone voted yes to adjourn including John M. who arrived later in the meeting.

